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SPECIAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION
August 10, 1976

In response to inquiry by the Bureau, our Los Angeles Office has furnished a summary that would provide logical motives which may have contributed to the death of John Roselli, prominent West Coast La Cosa Nostra (LCN) figure.

John Roselli was active in California and Las Vegas in handling affairs for the Chicago LCN family. Roselli, in the 1940's, was convicted for the extortion of individuals in the movie industry and was sentenced to 10 years. The primary witness in this matter was killed as a result of a bombing of his automobile.

In the late 1960's, Roselli was convicted for entering this country illegally. He was sentenced to 11 months in custody of the Attorney General. At the same time, he was convicted in a conspiracy to violate the ITAR - Gambling Statute. This involved a scheme using electronic devices to cheat at the famous Beverly Hills Friars Club. He was sentenced in this case to four years' custody of the Attorney General. Because of his alien status, deportation proceedings were brought against him by the INS. He was ordered deported, but this could not be effected because no country could be located who would receive him.

In May, 1970, Roselli was called as a witness before the FGJ, Los Angeles, dealing with the hidden ownership of the Frontier Hotel, Las Vegas, Nevada. Roselli was granted immunity and testified before this FGJ. He was quoted by newspapers as saying, "I'm doing my best to cooperate. I just hope I'm doing the right thing." Subsequent to this, Detroit LCN members were convicted in the Frontier Hotel matter.



JFK Law 10(a)2

SD 1064-C-TE has speculated that Roselli was possibly killed because of his testimony before this FGJ and the involvement of LCN figures in these cases.

Bureau informants are being contacted in this matter and you will be advised of developments in this case.

- 1 - Mr. Held
- 1 - Mr. Adams
- 1 - Mr. Gallagher
- 1 - Mr. Moore

PDS:lrh *lrh*

ASB *SPB* *K*

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| APPROVED: | Ext. Affairs..... | Laboratory..... |
| Assoc. Dir..... | Fin. & Pers..... | Legal Coun..... |
| Dep. AD Adm..... | Gen. Inv..... | Plan. & Eval..... |
| Dep. AD Inv..... | Ident..... | Rec. Mgnt..... |
| Asst. Dir.: | Inspection..... | Spec. Inv..... |
| Adm. Serv..... | Intell..... | Training..... |

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GPK-Law 10(a)2

[REDACTED]

THE APPEARANCES OF [REDACTED] BEFORE THIS GRAND JURY GREATLY ANGERED THE CHICAGO FAMILY AND THEY ESTABLISHED FRANK LA PORTE TO MAINTAIN A LIAISON WITH SD 1064-C-TE, HIMSELF A MEMBER. THIS INFORMANT LEARNED THAT THIS GROUP PLANNED TO KILL ROSELLI BASED ON HIS TESTIMONY BEFORE THIS GRAND JURY AND THAT THEY WOULD NOT DO IT AT THAT TIME BECAUSE OF THE FEDERAL CASES THAT WERE ONGOING, BUT RATHER WOULD WAIT UNTIL THINGS HAD QUIETED DOWN. AT ONE POINT FRANK LA PORTE STATED THAT ROSELLI WOULD BE LURED INTO A MEETING BY A FRIEND USING A SUITABLE PRETEXT AND THEN MURDER HIM. SD 1064-C-TE SPECULATED THAT THEY MIGHT USE SOMEONE LIKE SANTO TRAFFICANTE, JR. OF FLORIDA TO SET UP THE MEETING.

IT IS ALSO NOTED THAT ZERILLI, POLIZZI AND GIARDANO WERE CONVICTED LARGELY ON THE TESTIMONY OF MAURICE FRIEDMAN WHO, ALONG WITH ROSELLI, WAS A DEFENDANT IN THE FRAIRS CLUB CASE. FRIEDMAN WAS ORIGINALLY INTRODUCED INTO THIS GROUP BY JOHN ROSELLI AND THEY HAVE OPENLY STATED THAT THEY HOLD ROSELLI RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR CONVICTIONS. GIARDANO'S HIDDEN POINTS IN THE FRONTIER HOTEL WAS KNOWN TO VERY FEW PEOPLE. GIARDANO HAD INFORMED ROSELLI THAT HE WAS A POINTHOLDER. GIARDANO BLAMES ROSELLI FOR HIS

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INVOLVEMENT IN THIS CASE.

FOR INFORMATION OF MIAMI, LOS ANGELES INFORMANT LA 4476-C -TE WHO FROM TIME TO TIME RECEIVES INFORMATION CONCERNING ROSELLI, HAS BEEN CONTACTED CONCERNING HIS DEATH AND HAS NO POSITIVE INFORMATION TO FURNISH.

CAUTION

THE INFORMATION PROVIDED IN THIS TELETYPE AS RECEIVED FROM SD 1064-C -TE IS HIGHLY SENSITIVE AND IF DISSEMINATION OF ANY INFORMATION IS MADE TO OUTSIDE AGENCIES, INVESTIGATING ROSELLI'S DEATH, SPECIFIC QUOTES SHOULD BE AVOIDED AND GENERALITIES USED IN ORDER TO PROTECT THIS VALUABLE SOURCE.

THE ABOVE SUMMARY HAS BEEN FURNISHED IN ORDER TO PROVIDE LOGICAL MOTIVES WHICH MAY HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THE DEATH OF JOHN ROSELLI.

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